

BACKGROUND OF OG SON OF FIRE

Og, Son of Fire, while primarily radio entertainment of the thrilling, adventure type, has a more serious background than pure fiction. It is meant to bring the Cave People out of the school books and make them live and breathe for the young listeners, and present a picture of life as it probably was in the Dawn Age, when mankind was struggling upward for his place in the sun. The Cave man's trials and hardships are the basis for all adventures; and their biggest problems, the quest of food and shelter; motivate all their undertakings. (Irving Crump, Managing Editor of Boys' Life, the Boy Scout magazine, and author of many books for boys and girls, sensitive to the fact that a greater responsibility) At the same time the author draws upon legitimate dramatic material and deals constructively with primitive invention and discovery, undertaking to establish the probable origin of many of the common place things of today that had their beginning far back in prehistoric times, such as the use of fire, the bow and arrow, the raft and canoe, the fish net, spear and other devices that were developed by primitive man.

Being sensitive, however, to the facts that a greater responsibility rests on this type of program than it does on the program of the pure fictional type, the author, Irving Crump, Managing Editor of Boys' Life, the Boy Scout Magazine, and author of a score or more books for boys and girls, has exercised great care in searching out source material wherever available, and is making a definite effort to keep the adventure story wherever possible true to known fictional facts without any distortion of well-founded scientific opinions.

and his companions

Og, the fictional hero of the tale, whose adventures have been published in a series of three books, all accepted by the American Library Association, conducts themselves in true hero fashion. There is always uppermost in their thoughts the desire to be of service to others; to help their people and other people all they can; never to kill game wantonly; to be truthful, honest and courageous, and never to take advantage of the superstition and ignorance of others.

By the very nature of the program there is no chance for slang, or other objectionable features present in many juvenile programs for slang, thief jargon, street talk, or other objectionable features present in many juvenile programs. It is also without the crime formula save in so far as the author deals with medicine men and witch doctors who pry upon the superstitions of the less intelligent people in which case the cheater is always exposed and the exploitation of weaker people corrected.

The whole drama of primitive struggle for survival lies within the scope of the program and every effort is being made by the author to depict this struggle as vividly as possible thereby providing at once good radio entertainment, with a certain educational background.

OG, SON OF FIRE #99

LIBBY, MCNEILL, LIBBY

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1935

CAST

Og

Ru

Nada

Big Tooth

Black Beard, Chief of Mastodon Men.

SOUND

Trumpeting of Mastodons

Thunder of herd

Groans of dying Mastodon

Mob sounds of Mastodon men

signature

THE RUMBLE AND ROAR OF A VOLCANO IN ERUPTION.

COMMERCIAL

NARRATOR

Time turns backward one hundred thousand years.

We are back in the days when monsters stalked the earth, when volcanos rumbled and roared, when great beasts roamed the jungles and when men lived in caves, and with rude weapons of flint battled for the right to survive.

Because the men of their cave village needed flint with which to make stronger weapons, Og and Ru with Nada and their friend Big Tooth set out on a long journey toward a land where, they have heard, exists a great mountain of white flint. Their way led through a dense jungle frequented by a monster not unlike the Three Horned beast they had once encountered. This savage creature was making life miserable for their old friend Scar Face and the tree people, and to help the ape men Og and his friends went up into the mountains and at a great risk killed the monster. Scar Face was so impressed by Og's prowess that he asked him to remain with the ape people and be their chief. But the Cave People have no desire to stay with these animals who act like men and Og refused. This made Scar Face and his band angry and for a time it looked as if the ape men might fall upon Og and his friends and kill them. But just when Scar Face looked stormiest, and Og and Ru and Big Tooth were getting ready to defend themselves with their stone axes, across the jungle came the trumpeting roar of a herd of mad mastodons. A band of these great creatures was stampeding through the forest, tearing down trees in their mad flight. In terror the Tree People scattered, while Og and his friends bolted for the shelter of the cave they had been living in as these great elephant-like creatures came into sight. In the entrance to the cave Og and his companions huddled in terror as they watched the herd go thundering past, crashing down trees and tearing up the jungle in their headlong plunge. As they surged by Og wondered what had made these creatures stampede. They are crouching in the cave entrance now as the last of the herd goes thundering on, while the mad trumpeting and the rumble of their heavy feet fades into the distance.

TRUMPETING OF MASTODONS. THUNDER OF STAMPEDING HERD. BEGIN
HIGH AND GRADUALLY FADE INTO THE DISTANCE.

NADA

What a big band of those great creatures that was. They are nearly all gone now. Of that I am glad-- but see how they have trampled down the jungle.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Whoo. Them big fellow knock 'um down trees just like they be only so much grass, huh, Og? Ol' Scar Face and his Tree People they plenty wise when they run from here. If they caught in jungle when those old big foot ones go through they not be much left of Tree People Big Tooth think.

OG

Aye Big Tooth. Scar Face knew there was great danger coming when first he heard the trumpeting of that herd. So did all his people. They fled in haste toward the deepest part of the jungle yonder.

RU

It was good for us they did too. It was good for us the mastodons came when they did too. Scar Face and his ape people were getting mad because you would not agree to stay with them and be their chief. That stampede of mastodons just saved our lives I think.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Whoo. Ru be right there, huh, Og? Ol' mastodons come through jungle just in time for save us. Big Tooth bout ready for grab 'um stone axe for fight them ape people when ol' Thunder Feet commence for knock down jungle. Hi-yi-yi what stampede that was. If we be caught in that nothing much left of us by now Big Tooth think.

OG

You are right Big Tooth. We would have been trampled to death like so many bugs. We would have stood little chance. Just look how they trampled down the jungle yonder. Hardly a tree stands in the wide path they made.

NADA

Oh, glad I am for the safety of this cave. But what made those great beasts stampede Og? They seemed frightened-- wild, fearful of something. I did not know that such huge creatures could fear anything.

OG

That has been puzzling me Nada. That herd was fleeing from something

OG

I think-- something that spread terror among them. I do not know what it could be.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Big Tooth think about that too Og. Big Tooth wonder what chase that big herd of long nose fellows. Not can understand that thing.

NADA

Oh Og, could it be the great wolf pack that pursued them?

RU

Or maybe a band of hyenas, Og?

OG

I do not know. I have been listening for howls of the wolf herd, or the savage calls of the hyena. I have been watching yonder in the direction from which the mastodons came to see the first of the pursuers. But I see nothing.

NADA

Og, if it was the great wolf pack or a hyena band that followed those creatures it is not safe for us to linger here. They will find us and -- and-- well that shallow cave yonder would not be a safe place for us to hide in then. They could get into the cave and pull us down-- maybe we had better hurry away from here now. We should go up into the mountains.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Big Tooth think for that too, Og. Better we go way from here now before ol' wolf pack come along.

OG

But I am not sure it is the wolf pack that stampeded those mastodons. I am not sure it is a hyena band either-- and I do not like to run from a danger we do not know about. Maybe those mastodons just went mad for no reason and stampeded. Ak says that there are times each summer when mastodons go mad.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Big Tooth heard that thing too, Og. Maybe so ol' thunder feet just go crazy for fun, huh?

NADA

For fun. Hi-yah. If that stampede was just in fun I would not like to see those fellows when they were mad. Oh, Og, I am getting nervous and worried. Let us go on. Let us get out of this strange country where all manner of horrible creatures dwell. The pack baskets are all packed.

RU

Hah, she looks for trouble again, Og. Do not listen to her. I think those mastodons just stampeded because they are dumb.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Mastodons not be so dumb Ru. Them have plenty good brain for animals. Big Tooth think them fellow run away from some kind of danger. Him wish him know what that danger be.

OG

Aye, I do too Big Tooth. I wish I knew. To know a danger makes it easier to avoid than to be blind about it.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Og be right there. If we not know what trouble we run away from maybe so we run right into him, huh, Og?

OG

Aye, if it is the great wolf pack they may have circled up through the mountains to head off that herd. If we go up into the mountains we may run right into them.

NADA

And that would be bad. Oh Og, ehat shall we do?

OG

Wait here until we know that terror those mastodons fled from. Then when we know we can flee too if --hiO yah. Harj,

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Whoo. Big Tooth hear something---Hi-yi-yi.

DISTANT TRUMPETING OF A SINGLE MASTODON. HIGH PITCHED AND IN PAIN.

NADA

No. A mastodon bellows Og. Is it--can it be the herd coming back?

RU

Fie, Nada. How dumb you are? That trumpeting came from the wrong direction. It idid not come from the way the herd went.

OG

Nay, it did not. It came from the way the herd came.

REPEAT MASTODON BELLOW. NEARER NOW. NOTE OF PAIN STRONGER.

NADA

Oh, there it is again. It does come from the direction the herd came. Maybe it is another herd.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Big Tooth think that be just one mastodon. Him be in pain too. Something happen to him huh, Og?

OG

Aye Big Tooth. It is one animal, and he is in pain. He--

REPEAT MASTODON BELLOW

OG

Hi-yah. There he is yonder. Se him coming.

NADA

Oh, he follows the trail of the herd. I see him now. He is not so big.

RU

Nay, it is but a half grown one-- a cow, Og--and--and ho-ho, she is hurt. See how she staggers as she lumbers along.

OG

Aye, she is hurt. Something ails her. Something----

REPEAT MASTODON BELLOW. EMPHASIZE PAINFUL SQUEALING

NADA

Look. Look. She sways from side to side as she runs--she--oh, there, she stumbles--she is going to fall.

OG

Nay, she stays on her feet. But she is wounded. Look there. A spear sticks into her.

RU

More than one spear sticks into her. I see more that have broken off. Look at the short shafts sticking out.

NADA

She runs heavy Og. Oh, there she stumbled again. She -- oh, she falls this time. There she goes down.

BIG TOOTH

Hi-yi-yi. She fall down all right. Whoo. Almost feel 'um ground shake when she tumble that time.

CONTINUE GRUNTING AND GROANING OF MASTODON UNTIL FADED OUT

NADA

Oh, the poor beast. She is hurt. She is in great pain.

RU

Look, she is getting up. She is struggling to her knees.

BIG TOOTH

Hi-yi-yi. She plenty good fighter. There she get up on feet now. Whoo. She plenty sick though. You see her stumble along Og.

OG

Aye, she is hurt bad. She --hi-yah. She falls again/.

INCREASE BELLOWING AND GROANING HERE

NADA

Oh Og. I do not like to see this. She is going to die.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Whoo. She go for die all right. Whoo. She not get up this time, Og. You see that huh?

OG

Aye Big Tooth. This time she cannot get up. She is too weak.

GRUNTS AND GROANS BEGIN TO TAPER OFF HERE. FADE OUT AS SHE DIES.

NADA

(SYMPATHETIC) Aw-w-w. See her, Og. Poor--poor creature.

RU

Hah, you would baby that big beast too. I want to see her die. There is a mountain of fresh meat for us, Og.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Whoo. Big Tooth not so sure that be meat for us, huh, Og?

Og

Aye Big Tooth. I am not so sure either.

RU

Why? There she is and she is dead. She is good meat Og -- fine meat.

OG

Aye, but not our meat Ru. We did not kill her.

RU

Huh, well but --

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Them not be our spears what stick in that mastodon, Ru.

RU

Eh. Not our spears? That is true, they are not our spears. I wonder whose they are, Og.

OG

I wish I knew Ru.

NADA

Oh they are not the spears of the Tree People for those apes have no weapons. Those spears -- they mean --

OG

That there are some men around here -- savage men; a strange tribe.

NADA

Not the Red Beards, Og?

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Red Beards not use spears so very much Nada. Them fellow use sling for throw 'um stone.

OG

That is true Big Tooth. It is not likely that it was the spears of the Red Beards that laid that mastodon low.

RU

Then who could it have been Og?

OG

I cannot even guess. Never have men from our caves been in this part of the jungle before.

NADA

Oh Og. I think we had better go away from here now. I know we has. We do not want to meet the owners of those spears. They may follow the mastodon to claim their kill.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. That be what Big Tooth think, Og. Better we go way from here, huh?

OG

But I do not like to go without knowing whose spears these are.

RU

And I could like to have some of that meat.

NADA

Hah, again you think more of food than of safety.

RU

But there are no hunters in sight anywhere, dumb one. We could steal some of that meat and go on up into the mountains. If the hunters come to claim their kill they will not find us. And I do not think they will miss a little of that meat. There is so much of it. Come on, Og. Let us have a look at that dead mastodon.

OG

It is the spears I want to look at, Ru. Come Big Tooth we will go over and look for marks that might tell us who they belong to.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Big Tooth go with Og for find out that thing. You come too, Nada, huh?

NADA

Aye, if you all go to look at that poor beast I will go too. But, but I am worried.

RU

Hah, you would be Sloth.

OG

Hi-yah, this is a bigger beast than I thought. Look at the length of those tusks and a mighty trunk too.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Ol' Thinder Feet be plenty big. Plenty dead too. Whoo. What little ears him got for big fellow huh Og? Not so hairy as ol' Mountain-that-walks meither.

OG

Nay, the mastodon is not as hairy as the mammoth.

RU

but the meat is just as good, Og.

OG

Hah, bother the meat, Ru. I come to look at these spears. Look here Big Tooth. There are as many spears as I have fingers on both hands, sticking in this beast.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo.. Plenty of them be broke off too. Here big one, Og. Hi-yi-yi, what big one. Take plenty big man for throw that spear Big Tooth think.

NADA

Aye it would take a great man--a giant to throw that spear. Oh, Og, I am worried. If the w owner of that spear should come along noe--

OG

Never mind Nada. We will clear out of here as soon as I have lookeed at this spear for the mark of the hunter. Here Big Tooth lay hold of this shaft. We will pull it out.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Big Tooth help Og pull'um spear out. Wait him grab hold. Now there---(pulling and straining) we--pull--together--hi-yi-yi--how--deep-spear--is--in--ugh--ah.

OG (PULLING)

aye--ugh--ah--it--is--in--deep--hah--there.

BIG TOOTH

Hah, be our now--hi-yi-yi--what spear that is. Look at spear head, Og.

Og

Ho-ho. Look here, this head is made of a piece of the tusk of a mastodon.

NADA

Aye it is--here, Ru. See it is spear point.

RU

Wait, I am busy. I am cutting some of the meat from the rump of this beast.

NADA

Ha-ha, you steal some meat, eh? Og, see what Ru does.

OG

I do not care what Ru does. This spear holds my thoughts--Look you Big Tooth. Here is a mark on the shaft, scratched in. See it. What think you it is?

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Look like pretty good picture of mastodon. Whoo, that what this be, Og. This spear of mastodon people Big Tooth think.

OG

Mastodon People. Never have I heard of them. I wonder who they are and where they come from. They must be great hunters to spear one of these big beasts. I should like to meet them, if they are friendly.

NADA

Aye, if they are friendly. But I do not think they are. And anyway if they were they would not be friendly to us for Ru steals some of their meat. Ig, stop him before some of these Mastodon Men come along and--and oh, Og.

OG

What Nada?

NADA

There they are. There are the Mastodon Men. See them. They come this way.

BEGIN MOB SOUND OF MASTODON MEN

Og

Where Nada? Where. Hi-yah- I see them. What giants of men they are.

BIG TOOTH

Whoo. Whoo. They be Mastodon Men all right. Look at size for them fellow. Have black beard on face too.

NADA

They carry great spears--and big axes, Og. They are ugly looking fellows, and that one out in front is gi biggest and ugliest of them all--oh, look. He sees us.

BLACK BEARD. (big man with booming voice)

Ho.. Who you people. You should not steal our meat there.

VOICES OF MASTODON MEN RAISED IN SUDDEN MOB SOUND. SUSTAIN TO END OF BROADCAST.

(13)

VOICES

Hah. They steal our meat. Kill them. Kill them. Kill the meat stealers.

NADA

Oh Og. They are angry. They see Ru stealing their meat. What shall we do?

BIG TOOTH

whoo. them be plenty mad. Hi-yi-yi. Here they come. Better we run, Og.

OG

Hi-yah. They do come. They are mad too. Run. Run for the cave yonder. There we can keep them back maybe.

NADA

Hah. Not those fellows. We cannot keep them back. There are too many.

OG

Never mind Nada. Run. Run for the cave. Hurry. Come Big Tooth. Back to the cave. Our stone axes and bows are there. We will stand them off from the cave entrance. Hurry. Hurry. They come fast (fade into mob sounds of the mastodon people)

MOB SOUNDS OF THE MASTODON PEOPLE AS THEY SURGE FORWARD. CUT.

NARRATOR

The mastodon people, giant black-bearded men with ugly spears. And they found the Cave People stealing meat from their kill. OG and his companions have hurried back to their cave to make a stand against these huge fellows, but will they be able to hold their own against them or will they be wiped out by these savage men? Listen for the next thrilling adventure of Og, Son of Fire.